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BRAC commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Va., 22202

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in reference to the proposed closing of Cannon Air Force Base, at Clovis, New Mexico.

ACTUVE DUTY to RETIRED status

I was stationed here starting in 1973. I found the people to be the *most friendliest*, I have encountered in my 8 PCS moves. In 1981, I retired here in Clovis and enjoy the facilities of the base in using the hospital, commissary, BX, chapel, the combined club, golf, and the many facilities my family have used since retiring. The nearest military facility have these services is in Albuquerque at 250 miles away.

I am now a CPA, a Clovis business man, and offer military discounts for my services and enjoy the company of my fellow airmen, appreciating the protection they give our nation.

SPECIAL STUDY, ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CANNON CLOVIS - 1975

While stationed at Cannon, as Management Analyst Officer, I produced the special study, *Economic Impact of Cannon on Clovis - 1975*. I gathered my facts from the Clovis Chamber of Commerce and was amazed to learn that Cannon comprised 1/3 of the entire payroll of Clovis, NM. The impact does not stop here but continues with the local purchase of needed items for the base to span to even Amarillo and Lubbock, TX.

The loss of civilian jobs, the contribution that Clovis has grown to offer our nation would be devastating not only to Clovis but also within at least the 100 to 150 miles radius of Clovis.

PLENTY OF ROOM AND GREAT WEATHER FOR MANY TRAINING SORTIES

I was talking to a client in Arizona near Luke AFB. He mentioned that the people around Luke would like to see that base closed. We at Clovis would welcome them and should be able to absorb their aircraft and personnel to continue on the same mission that they have.

The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.

The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability.

Cannon AFB, was an alternate landing area for the space shuttle to land here in the event the primary landing site at Edwards AFB was closed due to weather.

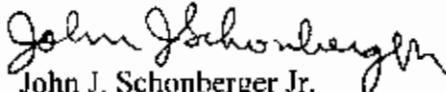
PRIMARY BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR HOMELAND SECURITY FOR OUR PRESIDENT.

I can't substantiate this but I was told that this is true. Other bases were not that close with the proper aircraft to cover air security for President Bush while at his Texas ranch.

There are many more salient reasons that can be listed and I'm sure these have been pointed out by the people of Clovis.

When you come to Clovis, you can see for yourselves these salient points as well as others keeping in sight the well being of our beloved country.

Sincerely,


John J. Schonberger Jr.
Major, USAF, Retired